

1400 16th Street, N  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 332-5922 office  
(202) 483-9277 fax  
dtettelba@czn.com e-mail

ORIGINAL

RICHARD M. TETTELBAUM Associate General Counsel



November 21, 1997

**TELECOPIED and**  
**FEDERAL EXPRESS**

David Waddell, Executive Secretary  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

Re: Docket No. 97-00888, Universal Service Generic Contested Case

Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee LLC and  
Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State LLC --  
Request For Designation As Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Yesterday, Mr. Jobe of our companies sent, by overnight mail, the original of the request of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee LLC and Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State LLC for designation as Eligible Telecommunications Companies. The filing is made pursuant to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's November 3, 1997 Order Establishing Procedures For Designation of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 And FCC Order 97-157 (the "ETC Order").

Mr. Jobe's executed letter should have come to me first so that I could send the correct number of copies and arrange for service upon the parties.

I am sending thirteen copies of the filing to you for delivery on November 24, 1997. I am serving copies upon all parties today by U.S. Mail.

The Authority's records will reflect that, on October 3, 1997, we filed the Joint Petition Of The Citizens LECs For Certification As Eligible Telecommunications Carriers. This was filed prior to issuance of the ETC Order. It should be dismissed in light of today's filing made in compliance with the ETC Order.

David Waddell  
November 21, 1997  
Page 2

Please direct any questions on this matter to me.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. M. Tettelbaum', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Richard M. Tettelbaum

cc (w/encl.):

Donald Innes  
Wayne Lafferty  
J. Michael Swatts  
Counsel of Record

Three High Ridge Park  
Stamford, CT 06905

O. LEE JOBE, Vice President  
(203) 614-4677  
(203) 614-6746 - fax



November 20, 1997

**FEDERAL EXPRESS**

David Waddell, Executive Secretary  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

**Re: Docket No. 97-00888, Universal Service Generic Contested Case**

Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC, and  
Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State, LLC --  
Request For Designation As Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

Dear Mr. Waddell:

This letter is written pursuant to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's Order Establishing Procedures For Designation Of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant To Section 214(e)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 And FCC Order 97-157 (the "ETC Order.") Pursuant to the ETC Order, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC, and Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State, LLC hereby request designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs").

I am Vice President of Citizens Utilities Company's Communications Sector and Vice President of Citizens Utilities Company's Tennessee incumbent local exchange companies, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC and Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State, LLC (the "Citizens LECs"). I am responsible for all facets of the business and operations of the Citizens LECs and am authorized to execute this request for designation of the Citizens LECs as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2)) (the "Act").

The Citizens LECs and their predecessors in interest have long provided ubiquitous residential and business basic exchange and other telecommunications services in their respective Tennessee service areas. Each has functioned as the "carrier of last resort" in the areas they serve, holding out and providing service to all needing it, pursuant to terms and conditions, including pricing, regulated by the TRA and the former Tennessee Public Service Commission. The Citizens LECs are the historic providers of universal service in the communities that they are privileged to serve.

Under Section 214(e) of the Act and related FCC regulations, the ability of the Citizens LECs to receive federal funding for their continued provision of critical portions of the Act's Section 254 universal service program is predicated upon TRA designation as ETCs. As shown herein, the Citizens LECs meet all qualification criteria for Section 214(e) eligibility designation.

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"), in Section 54.101(a)(1) of its Rules, has delineated the "services that are supported by universal service support mechanisms under Section 254(c)." Those services are:

- (1) Voice grade access to the public switched network;
- (2) Local usage, i.e., a prescribed amount of minutes of use of exchange service, provided free of charge to end users;
- (3) Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
- (4) Single-party service or its functional equivalent;
- (5) Access to emergency services, including access to 911 and enhanced 911 services to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- (6) Access to operator services;
- (7) Access to interexchange service;
- (8) Access to directory assistance; and
- (9) Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

With two limited exceptions, the Citizens LECs provide all of the foregoing universal services. The first exception pertains to access to emergency services. The Citizens LECs provide such access to the full extent of local government implementation of emergency services in the territories included within those LECs' service areas. To the extent that local governments in territories within the

Citizens LEC service areas are still implementing or have yet to implement emergency services, the Citizens LECs will take all steps necessary to ensure access to such services as and when they become operational.

Insofar as toll limitation to qualifying low-income customers is concerned, the Citizens LECs can and will provide toll blocking services. However, neither the Citizens LECs nor any other local exchange carrier that they are aware of is currently capable of providing "toll control" service. Further, there is no industry understanding of when, if ever, the necessary technology will be available to implement this service. For this reason, the FCC requirement for toll control is the subject of multiple petitions for reconsideration. Exceptional circumstances exist, for a grant of additional time, pursuant to Section 54.101(c), for implementation of the "toll control" service requirement. The public interest in the maintenance and extension of universal service would be thwarted by requiring the currently impossible -- toll control -- as a condition precedent to ETC certification.

We are unaware at this time when we will be in the position to offer toll control. As indicated, the technology does not currently exist, and we do not know when, if ever, it will be available. At such time as the necessary technology becomes available, we will be able to notify the TRA of when it will be installed and toll control services made available to our customers.

All of the foregoing supported services, with the exception of toll control, are and will continue to be available throughout the service areas of both Citizens LECs. Those service areas are identical to each of the Citizens LEC's FCC-designated study areas. Further, all of the foregoing services, except for operator and directory assistance services, are provided through the use of physical facilities owned by the Citizens LECs. In the case of operator and directory assistance services, the Citizens LECs resell the services of other entities. However, the physical access, i.e., transport facilities used in such operations are provided on the Citizens LECs infrastructure.

The Citizens LECs' provision of supported services is known throughout the territories they serve. Further, the Citizens LECs' tariffs are available for public inspection and customer contact representatives are available, both in person and via toll-free telephone numbers, to provide service and rate

information. Further, the Citizens LECs will advertise the availability and charges for these services.

Please direct any questions on this ETC designation request to our counsel, Richard M. Tettelbaum, Suite 500, 1400 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.


Yours very truly,

CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF TENNESSEE LLC

and

CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF THE VOLUNTEER STATE  
LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
O. Lee Jobe, Vice President

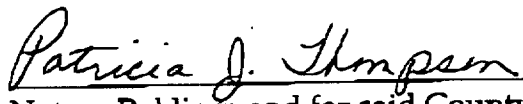
VERIFICATION

State of Connecticut  
County of Fairfield

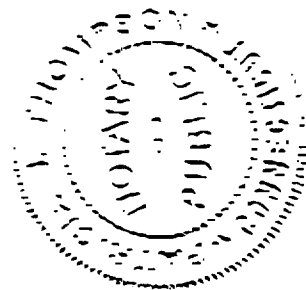
Lee Jobe, Vice President of Citizens Utilities Company's Communications Sector, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC, and Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State, LLC, named in the foregoing instrument and being duly sworn, says that the facts and allegations therein contained are true, except insofar as they are therein stated to be on information and belief, in which case he believes them to be true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Jobe

Taken, sworn to and subscribed before me this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1997.

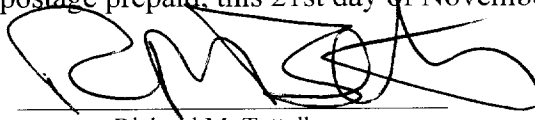
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for said County

My commission expires of the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1998.



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Richard M. Tettelbaum, hereby certify that a true and exact copy of "Request for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers" has been served on counsel of record and other interested parties via First Class Mail postage prepaid, this 21st day of November 1997.



Richard M. Tettelbaum

Guy Hicks  
BellSouth Telecommunications  
333 Commerce Street  
Suite 2101  
Nashville, TN 37201-3300

H. Ladon Baltimore, Esq.  
Attorney for LCI International  
Farrar & Bates, L.L.P.  
211 Seventh Avenue N.  
Suite 320  
Nashville, TN 37219-1823

Jon Hastings  
Attorney for MCI  
P.O. Box 198062  
414 Union Street, Suite 1600  
Nashville, TN 37219

Dana Shaffer  
Attorney for NextLink  
105 Molloy Street, Suite 300  
Nashville, TN 37201

T. G. Pappas, Esq.  
Coalition of Small LEC  
Bass, Berry & Sims  
2700 First American Center  
313 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, TN 37328-2700

Chuck Welch  
Attorney for Time Warner, Inc.  
Farris, Mathews, Gilman, Branan & Hellen  
511 Union Street, Suite 2400  
Nashville, TN 37219

Carolyn T. Roddy, Esq.  
Attorney for Sprint  
Sprint Communications Co., L.P.  
3100 Cumberland Circle - N0802  
Atlanta, GA 30339

James Lamoureux  
AT&T  
Room 4068  
1200 Peachtree Street, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30309

Val Sanford  
Attorney for AT&T  
P.O. Box 198888  
Nashville, TN 37219-8888

L. Vincent Williams, Esq.  
Office of the Consumer Advocate  
Cordell Hull Building, 2nd Floor  
426 Fifth Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37243-0500

Dan Elrod & Ken Bryant  
GTE Mobil Net  
Trabue, Sturdivant & DeWitt  
511 Union Street, 25th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37219

Fred L. Terry, General Manager  
Highland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 119  
Sunbright, TN 37872

James B. Wright  
United Telephone-Southeast, Inc.  
14111 Capital Boulevard  
Wake Forest, NC 27587-5900



F. Thomas Rowland, Manager  
North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 70  
Lafayette, TN 37083-0070

Dana Frix, Esq.  
AVR, L.P. d/b/a Hyperion of TN, L.P.  
Swidler & Berlin, Chartered  
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20007

D. Billye Sanders  
TCG MidSouth, Inc.  
Waller, Lansden, Dortch & Davis  
511 Union Street, Suite 2100  
P.O. Box 198966  
Nashville, TN 37219-8966

Gilford F. Thornton, Jr., Esq.  
BellSouth Cellular Corp.  
Stokes & Bartholomew  
424 Church Street, 28th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37219-2386

Glen G. Sears, General Manager  
W. Kentucky Rural Telephone Coop.  
237 North 8th Street  
Mayfield, KY 42066

James W. Dempster, Esq.  
Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Coop.  
118 East Main Street  
P.O. Box 332  
McMinnville, TN 37111-0332

W.T. Sims, Manager  
West Kentucky Rural Telephone  
P.O. Box 8  
Yorkville, TN 38389

Wayne Gassaway, Manager  
DeKalb Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 247  
Alexandria, VA 37012

Charlene Taylor (Chaz Taylor, Inc.)  
Attn: Sheila Davis  
3401 West End Avenue, Suite 378  
Nashville, TN 37203

William C. Carriger  
TN Municipal Telecom Group  
400 Krystal Building  
One Union Square  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Phoenix Network, Inc.  
Attn: Denis Newman  
1687 Cole Boulevard  
Golden, CO 80401

Richard Smith, President  
Standard Communications Co.  
302 Sunset Drive, Suite 101  
Johnson City, TN 37604

State Department of Education  
Attn: Jane Walters  
Commissioner  
6th Floor, Gateway Plaza  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0375

Jack McFadden  
Department of Finance & Administration  
598 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0560

360° Communications Company  
Attn: Thomas J. Curran  
Director External Affairs  
8725 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631